



SR0283

LRB103 32395 MST 61826 r

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SENATE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois Senate are saddened
3 to learn of the death of Chicago police officer Aréannah
4 Preston, who was killed in the line of duty on May 6, 2023; and

5 WHEREAS, Aréannah Preston was born on June 7, 1998; she
6 attended high school at UIC College Prep; she graduated from
7 Illinois State University in 2019 with a bachelor's degree in
8 criminal justice and law enforcement administration, where she
9 was a member of the National Association of Colored Women's
10 Club; she earned a Master of Jurisprudence from the Loyola
11 University Chicago School of Law and was set to walk the stage
12 on May 13, 2023; and

13 WHEREAS, Aréannah Preston spent three years with the
14 Chicago Police Department and was assigned to the 5th
15 District, which includes the Roseland, Pullman, West Pullman,
16 and Altgeld Gardens communities; and

17 WHEREAS, Since childhood, Aréannah Preston wanted to be a
18 police officer; she was dedicated to making a difference to
19 show young people that law enforcement could have a strong
20 positive impact in every community; and

21 WHEREAS, After Illinois State University's inaugural

1 Social Justice: Trip Through Genocide experience, Aréannah
2 Preston was troubled by the underrepresentation of minorities
3 in law enforcement and by too many incidents of police
4 brutality claiming the lives of unarmed people of color; and

5 WHEREAS, Based on what Aréannah Preston experienced on this
6 trip, she turned contemplation into action by entering the
7 academy for the Chicago Police Department with the goal of
8 building trust between law enforcement and underrepresented
9 communities; and

10 WHEREAS, Aréannah Preston was quoted after this trip,
11 saying "I know a big thing for our trip was finding voices for
12 those who didn't have a voice. When I got back, I wanted to be
13 an officer. I felt like could be a person to fight for justice.
14 I wish everyday that I could go back. I had ideas but didn't
15 know how to vocalize them. The trip made me a stronger
16 person."; and

17 WHEREAS, Aréannah Preston will be remembered as an
18 uplifting, courageous, and intelligent young woman with
19 unlimited potential; and

20 WHEREAS, Aréannah Preston is survived by her mother, her
21 father, her younger twin sisters, and numerous extended family
22 members and friends; therefore, be it

1 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL
2 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of
3 Chicago police officer Aréannah Preston and extend our sincere
4 condolences to her family, friends, and all who knew and loved
5 her; and be it further

6 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be
7 presented to the Office of the Governor, the Office of the Lt.
8 Governor, the Speaker of the House, the Mayor and Mayor-Elect
9 of the City of Chicago, the Chief of the Chicago Police
10 Department, and the family of Aréannah Preston as an expression
11 of our deepest sympathy.